

**REPORT OF THE AUDITOR-GENERAL TO THE KWAZULU-NATAL PROVINCIAL
LEGISLATURE AND COUNCIL ON JOZINI MUNICIPALITY**
REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Introduction

1. I have audited the financial statements of the Jozini Municipality set out on pages ... to ..., which comprise, the statement of financial position as at 30 June 2013, the statement of financial performance, statement of changes in net assets and the cash flow statement for the year then ended, and the notes, comprising a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

Accounting officer's responsibility for the financial statements

2. The accounting officer is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with the South African Standards of Generally Recognised Accounting Practice (SA Standards of GRAP) and the requirements of the: Municipal Finance Management Act of South Africa, 2003 (Act No. 56 of 2003) (MFMA) and the Division of Revenue Act of South Africa, 2012 (Act No. 5 of 2012) (DoRA), and for such internal control as the accounting officer determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditor-general's responsibility

3. My responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial statements based on my audit. I conducted my audit in accordance with the Public Audit Act of South Africa, 2004 (Act No. 25 of 2004) (PAA), the general notice issued in terms thereof and International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that I comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.
4. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgement, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the municipality's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the municipality's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my audit opinion.

Opinion

5. In my opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Jozini Municipality as at 30 June 2013, and its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the SA Standards of GRAP and the requirements of the MFMA and DoRA.

Emphasis of matters

6. I draw attention to the matters below. My opinion is not modified in respect of these matters.

Significant uncertainties

7. With reference to note 22 to the financial statements, the municipality is the defendant in a land-claim lawsuit. The municipality is opposing the claim. The ultimate outcome of the matter cannot presently be determined and no provision for any liability that may result has been made in the financial statements.

Restatement of corresponding figures

8. As disclosed in note 23 to the financial statements, the corresponding figures for 30 June 2012 have been restated as a result of an error discovered during 30 June 2013 in the financial statements of Jozini Municipality at, and for the year ended, 30 June 2012.

Additional matter

9. I draw attention to the matter below. My opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Unaudited supplementary schedules

10. The supplementary information set out on pages XX does not form part of the financial statements and is presented as additional information. I have not audited these schedules and accordingly I do not express an opinion thereon.

REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

11. In accordance with the PAA and the general notice issued in terms thereof, I report the following findings relevant to performance against predetermined objectives, compliance with laws and regulations and internal control, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion.

Predetermined objectives

12. I performed procedures to obtain evidence about the usefulness and reliability of the information in the annual performance report as set out on pages ... to ... of the annual report.
13. The reported performance against predetermined objectives was evaluated against the overall criteria of usefulness and reliability. The usefulness of information in the annual performance report relates to whether it is presented in accordance with the National Treasury's annual reporting principles and whether the reported performance is consistent with the planned development priorities. The usefulness of information further relates to whether indicators and targets are measurable (i.e. well defined, verifiable, specific, measurable and time bound) and relevant as required by the *National Treasury Framework for managing programme performance information*.

The reliability of the information in respect of the selected programmes is assessed to determine whether it adequately reflects the facts (i.e. whether it is valid, accurate and complete).

14. There were no material findings on the annual performance report concerning the usefulness and reliability of the information.

Additional matters

15. Although no material findings concerning the usefulness and reliability of the performance information were identified in the name of annual performance report, I draw attention to the following matters below. These matters do not have an impact on the predetermined objectives audit findings reported above.

Achievement of planned targets

16. Of the total number of 153 targets planned for the year, 47 of targets were not achieved during the year under review. This represents 30% of total planned targets that were not achieved during the year under review. This was due to the Municipality not considering available resources during the strategic planning process.

Material adjustments to the annual performance report

17. Material misstatements in the annual performance report were identified during the audit, of which all were corrected by management.

Compliance with laws and regulations

18. I performed procedures to obtain evidence that the municipality has complied with applicable laws and regulations regarding financial matters, financial management and other related matters. My findings on material non-compliance with specific matters in key applicable laws and regulations as set out in the general notice issued in terms of the PAA are as follows:

Annual financial statements, performance and annual reports

19. The municipality did not set key performance indicators, for development priorities and objectives set out in the Integrated Development Plan, as required by section 41(1)(a) of the Municipal Systems Act and the Municipal planning and performance management regulation 1 and 9(1)(a).
20. The financial statements submitted for auditing were not prepared in all material respects in accordance with the requirements of section 122 of the MFMA. Material adjustments were made to irregular expenditure, revenue, repairs and maintenance and the budget disclosure.

Internal control

21. I considered internal control relevant to my audit of the financial statements, annual performance report and compliance with laws and regulations. The matters reported below under the fundamentals of internal control are limited to the significant deficiencies that resulted in the findings on compliance with laws and regulations included in this report.

Leadership

22. Management did not exercise oversight responsibility regarding financial, performance reporting and compliance with key applicable laws and regulations.

Financial and performance management

23. Management did not prepare regular, accurate and complete financial and performance reports that are supported and evidenced by reliable information. Management did not monitor compliance with laws and regulations.

OTHER REPORTS

Investigations completed

24. A forensic investigation was conducted by an independent consulting firm on request of the municipality on supply chain processes during the prior year and was completed. The matter was handed over to the Commercial Crimes for further investigation for possible criminal prosecution.
25. During the year, an investigation was completed relating to the theft of solar panel geysers.

Auditor - General

Pietermaritzburg

29 November 2013



Auditing to build public confidence